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Message Text

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12
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 6702

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PFOR GH
SUBJ: REORGANIZATION: POLICY AND PERSONNEL ASPECTS

REF: ACCRA 6672

1. WE FORESEE LITTLE OR NO CHANGE IN POLICY POSTURE OF REORGANIZED GOG EITHER IN DOMESTIC, REGIONAL OR WIDER INTERNATIONAL ARENAS. POLICY MAKING GROUP IS LARGELY THE SAME DESPITE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL AND NEW MILITARY FACES. WHAT MAY, HOPEFULLY, CHANGE IS ABILITY TO IMPROVE TIMING AND QUALITY OF DECISION MAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION BUT, AS DECREE STATES, "AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF 1972 REVOLUTION" REMAIN UNCHANGED. POTENTIAL INCLUSION OF WIDER RANGE OF MILITARY MAY PERMIT ACHEAMPONG AND OTHERS TO PAY LESS ATTENTION TO ALLEGED COUP-PLOTTING AND MORE TO BUSINESS AT HAND.

2. IN PERSONNEL AREA THERE ARE SEVERAL INTERESTING AND POSSIBLY USEFUL CHANGES. DEPARTURE OF KWAME BAAH, WHO COMBINES
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HYPERSENSITIVITY ABOUT HIMSELF WITH INSENSITIVITY TO OTHERS,

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FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS IS A PLUS IN PERSONAL TERMS AT LEAST AND HAS ALREADY BEEN WELCOMED PRIVATELY BY OTHERS IN DIPLOMATIC CORPS, WITH WHICH HE ENJOYS UNPOPULARITY. HIS ROLE IN ECONOMIC PLANNING WILL STILL REQUIRE CONTACT WITH FOREIGNERS FROM AID DONORS BUT EASIER PACE OF THAT MINISTRY AND HIGH LEVEL OF WORK UNDERTAKEN BY PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL STAFF SHOULD MITIGATE SITUATION.

3. FELLI HAS MUCH EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, WHERE HE HAS OFTEN REPRESENTED ACHEAMPONG (WHO STILL DISDAINS FOREIGN TRAVEL). HE HAS DONE QUITE WELL IN ECONOMIC MEETINGS (SUCH AS ECOWAS AND EEC/ALP) AND HAS PERSONALITY WHICH CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS ENGAGING WHEN PLACED AGAINST THAT OF BAAH.

4. TACHIE-MENSON'S DEPARTURE WILL BE LITTLE LAMENTED AS HIS REPLACEMENT, KOTEI, IS PERHAPS MOST OUT-GOING AND PERSONABLE OF OLD NRC. KOTEI PERFORMED WELL IN WORKS AND HOUSING WITHIN BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS AND HAS SERVED AS ONE OF MORE AFFABLE PUBLIC RELATIONS MEN IN OLD GROUP. OTHER COMMISSIONER WITH WHOM USIS WILL DEAL, POLICE OFFICER OWUSU-FORDWOR, IS UNKNOWN TO US.

5. WE WERE SURPRISED TO SEE MOORE DEPART FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE (AND APPARENTLY HE WAS, TOO, AS HE COLLAPSED AND WAS HOSPITALIZED UPON RECEIVING THE NEWS). JUSTICE ADDOW HAS EXCELLENT REPUTATION, HOLDS DOCTORATE FROM LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND OUGHT TO PERFORM WELL. HE PRESUMABLY WILL TAKE OVER MOORE'S ROLE AS HEAD OF LAW OF SEA DELEGATIONS AND THUS WILL COME IN OCCASIONAL CONTACT WITH US OFFICIALS. PROBABLY OTHER INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, PRINCIPALLY ECONOMIC, WILL REMAIN BAILIWICK OF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL ASANTE.

6. THESE ARE THE MEN WE EXPECT MOST TO DEAL WITH, BUT THERE ARE OTHERS WHO SHOULD BE IMPROVEMENTS SUCH AS AMEDUME, WHO WAS RATED BEST OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS, AND THE REPLACEMENT FOR BAIDOO,WHO WAS RATED THE POOREST OF THE REGIONAL MEN AND FOR WHOM ANY REPLACEMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE IMPROVEMENT. AMONG DEPARTURES NOT ALREADY MENTIONED KABORE WAS MILD SUPRISE AS HE HAD BEEN THOUGHT TO PERFORM WELL IN VOLTA REGION.

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7. WHILE THERE APPEAR TO BE SOME PLUSSES IN NEW CASTE, IT AND THE NEW STRUCTURE AS WHOLE ARE NOT EXPECTED TO MAKE MUCH CHANGE AND THE WHOLE OPERATION HARDLY JUSTIFIES THE PRESS HEADLINES OF "A NEW DAWN" OR THE TENNYSONIAN "THE OLD ORDER CHANGEST".
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